

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No. 10/677,384
Atty. Docket No. Q72954

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A fixing member (100; 200; 300; 400; 500) for fixing a dispensing member (3) to an opening (20) of a reservoir (2), said fixing member having means (132; 232; 332; 432; 532) designed to receive the dispensing member, and a substantially cylindrical skirt (110; 210; 310; 410; 510) designed to be engaged in the opening of the reservoir to establish leaktight contact therein, said fixing member being characterized in that the skirt is vertical and is provided with at least one vent (115; 215; 315; 415; 515) passing through the thickness of the skirt, wherein the vent provides direct communication between the interior and the exterior of the reservoir when the fixing member is being engaged with the opening of the reservoir.

2. (previously presented): A fixing member according to claim 1, in which the vent is formed at a second segment which is below a top segment (116; 216; 316; 416; 516) designed to come into leaktight tight-fitting contact in the opening, wherein the top segment has a larger diameter than the second segment.

3. (previously presented): A fixing member according to claim 1, in which the vent is formed at a middle segment (114; 214; 314; 414; 514) designed to come into leaktight tight-

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fitting contact in the opening, wherein the middle segment has a larger diameter than another segment of the skirt.

4. (original): A fixing member according to claim 1, in which the vent is formed above a bottom segment (113; 213; 313; 413; 513) including a larger-diameter portion designed to come into leaktight tight-fitting contact in the opening.

5. (original): A fixing member according to claim 2, in which the top segment (116; 416) forms an outwardly-projecting bead (1161; 4161) designed to flatten in the opening.

6. (original): A fixing member according to claim 4, in which the bottom segment (313; 413) forms an outwardly-projecting bead (3131; 4131) designed to flatten in the opening.

7. (original): A fixing member according to claim 1, in which the skirt forms an abutment flange (117; 217; 317; 417; 517) designed to come into abutting contact with the opening.

8. (original): A fixing member according to claim 2, in which the top segment (416; 516) is provided with at least one vertical groove (4162; 5162) having one end that is designed to communicate with the vent (415; 516) when the top segment is in tight-fitting contact in the opening of the reservoir.

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9. (previously presented): A fixing member according to claim 1, in which the vent (315; 515) is formed at a middle segment (314; 514) designed to remain out of contact with the opening of the reservoir, wherein the middle segment has a smaller diameter than another segment of the skirt.

10. (original): A fixing member according to claim 1, forming an internal ferrule (160; 260; 360; 460; 560) against which at least one component (33) of the dispensing member (3) is urged elastically in the rest position.

11. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser comprising a reservoir (2), a dispensing member (3), and a fixing member (100; 200; 300; 400; 500) according to Claim 1.

12. (original): A fluid dispenser according to claim 11, in which the skirt surrounds the dispensing member with a free annular space between them at the level of the vent.

13. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser comprising:
a dispensing member;
a reservoir; and
a fixing member which fixes the dispensing member to an opening of the reservoir;

wherein the fixing member comprises a vent hole passing through a wall of the fixing member, and wherein the vent hole is closed off by the reservoir after the fixing member is mounted on the reservoir.

14. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser according to claim 13, wherein the fixing member further comprises a skirt that engages the opening of the reservoir from an inside of the opening of the reservoir and the vent hole passes through the skirt.

15. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser according to claim 14, wherein the skirt includes a top segment engaged in a leaktight fit with the opening and the vent hole is formed below the top segment.

16. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser according to claim 14, wherein the skirt includes a bottom segment engaged in a leaktight fit with the opening and the vent hole is formed above the bottom segment.

17. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser according to claim 14, wherein the skirt comprises a top segment engaged in a leaktight fit with the opening and a bottom segment engaged in a leaktight fit with the opening and wherein the vent hole is formed below the top segment and above the bottom segment.

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18. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser according to claim 14, wherein the skirt further comprises a bead engaged in a leaktight fit with the opening.

19. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser according to claim 15, wherein the top segment comprises a vertical groove having an end which communicates with the vent hole when the top segment is fit with the opening.

20. (previously presented): A fluid dispenser according to claim 14, wherein the vent hole is formed at a portion of the skirt that does not contact the reservoir.